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COUNTRY East Germany REPORT

TOPIC Military Information from the Zeitz Training Area

EVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED 25X1

DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 22 April 1954 25X1

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

This is UNEVALUATED Information

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1. On 22 March 1954, the Infanterie Kaserne (8541) in Zeitz was again occupied by about 1,300 to 1,500 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery and tank insignia. ¹ a unit which had temporarily been stationed in the installation, left toward Weissenfels during the night on 17 March 1954. ² 25X1
Instruction on 57-mm AT guns and 80-mm mortars was held in the installation. Between 15 and 22 March, numerous details of troops almost daily marched to the training area near Elsterwehr and Muehlgraben.
2. On 22 March, the Artillerie Kaserne (8542), Zeitz, was occupied by about 1,000 to 1,200 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank and motor transport insignia. In the afternoon on 21 March, the tank units which, on 15 March, had been entrained at the Zeitz railroad station, returned to the Artillerie Kaserne. Four T-34/85 tanks were observed. On 22 March, 19 T-34/85 tanks were observed in front of the vehicle sheds of the installation. In addition to armored personnel carriers
3. On 24 March, about 24 T-34/85 tanks, 1 salvage tank, about 400 troops wearing red-
bordered black epaulets with tank insignia, and 39 motor vehicles from Artillerie 25X1
Kaserne were entrained at the Zeitz railroad station. 25X1
- On 25 March, 6 x 85-mm AT guns, 10 T-34/85 tanks and several trucks
4. Between 7 and 9 March, firing practice was daily held at the forest Zeitz training area. A large number of tanks, guns and trucks was seen in the surrounding woods. ²

25 YEAR
RE-REVIEW

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1. [redacted] Comment. The barracks installations in Zeitz appear to be occupied as previously. The tank unit of the 20th Gds Mech Div which returned on 21 March presumably had transferred to the regular firing practices of tank details of the Eighth Gds Army in Letzing Heath on 15 March [redacted]

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[redacted] 25X1

[redacted] the units are believed to have belonged to the 20th Gds Mech Div and, according to other vague indications, transferred to Ohrdruf. [redacted]

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2. [redacted] Comment. Units not permanently stationed in the barracks installations in Zeitz have repeatedly been observed there since the beginning of firing practices in the Zeitz Forest. [redacted] the training area was located in Jagen Nos 72 through 75, 48 and 49. The firing lane extended from Jagen 72 toward south, via Jagen Nos 48 and 49. [redacted]

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[redacted] 25X1

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